Appl. No. 09/816,926 Amdt. Dated July 12, 2004 Reply to Office Action of March 10, 2004

Please replace the "missing" abstract, with the following amended abstract:

## Abstract of the Disclosure

The configurable hardware block is designed to read data stored in a memory according to its configuration, to process the read-out data arithmetically and/or logically and to write the data representing the result of the processing into the memory. The hardware block is capable of interacting with external hardware, thereby providing a flexible and universally applicable hardware block.

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